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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

FORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR.

17 Jan. 1952

SUBJECT Military Units Stationed in
Yambol

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- At the beginning of 1950, the headquarters and staff of 3 Infantry Division were transferred from Sliven to Yambol. The staff established its headquarters in a building approximately 300 yards from the Yambol Court 50X1-HUM in the center of the city. Until the beginning of 1951, the divisional commander was Colonel Karakachanov who was replaced by Colonel Papazov,

The deputy divisional commander was Lieutenant Colonel Germanov

- formerly 29 Infantry Regiment, was in barracks in the northeastern part of Yambol.

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- There was a cavalry unit, reported to be 7 Cavalry Regiment, quartered near the 29 Infantry Regiment. The commander of this unit was a colonel who wore two broad and one thin stripes on his trousers. Antitank guns with half-track prime movers are attached to the cavalry unit.¹

- An unidentified unit with six tanks was quartered in the same barracks as the cavalry unit.

- There was little activity at the Yambol airfield and not more than two training planes and three transport planes were observed on the field at any given time. From 1949 to 1950, inclusive, no parachute jumps were observed on the field. There was a unit of 150 to 200 soldiers equipped with Manlicher rifles stationed at the field. This was allegedly a para-troop unit.²

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7. A Border Guard unit was quartered in barracks adjacent to the Yambol railroad station. This unit, composed of 250 to 300 soldiers, wore green uniforms, boots, and had white belts around their jackets. Five or six trucks were attached to this unit.

1.  Comment: Officers wearing two broad stripes and one thin stripe are generally divisional commanders and above. The fact that the unit has antitank guns attached to it would tend to confirm this unit as being part of a divisional headquarters.

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2.  Comment: This unit would appear to be the normal airfield guard unit, since no other information indicates paratroopers carrying rifles.

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